regarded either as being derived from Amphidiscophora by loss of amphidisks, modification of microhexactins into hexasters, and higher development of the choanosom, or simply as Hexasterophora which have developed pinuli ; the latter seems the more likely hypothesis.

Specimens of Amphidiscophora would require to be fixed suitably at the moment of capture, in order to show the delicate contractile protoplasm with the spicules *in situ*. In ordinary museum specimens I have invariably found the tissues much contracted, leaving the bare convex distal heads of the amphidisks exposed on the surface.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE.

Memoirs of the Indian Museum.—Vol. II. No. 2. *An Account of the Indian Cirripedia Pedunculata.*—Part 1. *Fam.* Lepadidæ (*sensu stricto*). Plates VI.–VII. By N. Annandale, D.Sc. Published by Order of the Trustees of the Indian Museum, Calcutta. 1909. Two Rupees.

Dr. Annandale has done much more than give a mere list o species in this most valuable and interesting memoir, for he has touched upon many themes that deserve far closer attention than they have hitherto received.

Confining himself in the present contribution to the Pedunculata, he points out the difficulties of his task, owing to the fact that there are few groups which afford so many or such perfect instances of convergence or adaptive resemblance. With such material the formation of a natural system of classification—a system based on descent—is well nigh impossible. He gives some interesting illustrations of this fact, selecting as the best example among the Lepadidæ *Pœcilasma kæmpferi*, which occurs in its typical form in Japan and in the South Pacific, but is represented by subspecies in several different parts of the Indian and Atlantic Oceans.

Some extremely interesting facts on life-history are to be found in Dr. Annandale's notes on the several genera herein described. Thus, of the genus *Dichelaspis* he tells us that with one exception the species thereof affix themselves on settling down in life to the bodies of hard-shelled Crustaceans ; but the exception—*D. grayi*—chooses the skin of sea-snakes.

Space forbids more than a very brief notice of this most interesting memoir, which should prove a very welcome addition to carcinological literature.